



# PSC NEWS

## Missouri Public Service Commission

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FY-04-136

### PSC TO HOLD LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS IN FIDELITY TELEPHONE COMPANY RATE CASE

Jefferson City (February 17, 2004)---The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold local public hearings in **Gerald and Sullivan on March 9, 2004**, to receive customer comment on a telephone rate case filed by Fidelity Telephone Company. The local public hearing schedule appears below:

#### **Gerald**

March 9, 2004

12:00 p.m.\*

Knights of Columbus Hall

3698 Old Highway 50

#### **Sullivan**

March 9, 2004

5:00 pm\*

Sullivan Community Center

830 West Main

**NOTE: \*The PSC Staff will conduct a general information session starting at this time to answer any questions customers may have. The information session will be followed by the local public hearing.**

These local public hearings will be held in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodations to participate in these hearings should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearing.

**Local public hearings give customers of the Company an opportunity to comment on the rate proposal currently before the Public Service Commission. In addition, customers can bring any service related problems to the attention of the Commission.**

On December 30, 2003, Fidelity Telephone Company filed a rate request with the Public Service Commission seeking to increase annual telephone revenues by approximately \$2,359,970. Fidelity Telephone Company provides telephone service to approximately 16,700 access lines in the Missouri counties of Crawford, Franklin, Gasconade, Washington and Osage.

Fidelity Telephone Company is seeking to increase the basic monthly telephone rate for one-party residential customers from the current rate of \$7.55 a month to \$11.25 a month. For one-party business customers, the telephone company is seeking to increase the monthly telephone rate from \$14.25 a month to \$18.95 a month. The telephone company is also seeking to increase the rates of a number of other non-basic telephone services including the local toll Outstate Calling Area (OCA) plan and directory assistance charges. In addition, Fidelity Telephone is seeking to increase the rates charged to long distance carriers for access to the Fidelity telephone network to complete a long distance call.

Formal hearings in this rate request are scheduled to begin on April 5, 2004, in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, in Jefferson City. Hearings will continue through April 8, 2004, if necessary.

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